Monitoring of diagnostic laboratories

2561. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have laid down any standards and monitoring system for the diagnostic laboratories funtioning in the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that a number of such laboratories are functioning without maintaining the required standards and the paients are receiving inaccurate reports form the labs; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government to monitor the system in the interest of the patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) Health being a State subject under the Constitution of India, it is the responsibility of State Governments to lay down standards and monitoring system for the diagnostic laboratories. However, Central Government is considering putting in place standards and specifications that will prescribe minimum standards for hospitals, nursing homes and other clinical establishments.

Restructuring of AIIMS

2562. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) has drawn up the largest prospective plan for its restructuring and development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact the senior faculty of the AIIMS is questioning the restructuring plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA):

(a) to (d) All India Institute of Medical Sciences is planning to upgrade their facilities and a detailed Master Plan has laready been submitted to Delhi Urban Arts Commission. Faculty members have been involved in the preparation of the Plan at various stages and their views and suggestions have been incorporated in the Plan. The Master Plan includes expansion of housing facilities, expanded hostel facilities, new institutional buidlings like Pay Wards, extended OPD, Digestion Centre, Renal Centre, Dental College, Captive Power Plan etc. extensive parking arrangements, boring of new tube wells, covering of nallah etc. The Project is expected to cost Rs.1300 crores and is planned to be implemented phasewise as part of vision 2025. The project has not been considered by the Government yet. Its implementation will depend on due clearances and availability of funds.

Black marketing of cancer drugs

2563. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that medicines recently developed abroad to fight cancer which have not yet been approved for sale, are being stocked illegally by chemists and sold at exorbitant prices;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Doctors in private hospitals prescribe such medicines routinely and the patients are forced to procure them from black market at a very high price; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action Government have taken to end black marketing of such life-saving drugs?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) to (c) Monitoring of sale of drugs is done by State Drugs Control Authorities.

Following a newspaper report about alleged sale of unapproved drugs in unauthorized manner by chemists, the matter has been taken up with all State Drugs Controllers for proper checks.

Some of the latest drugs which may be required in small quantities are not marketed in the country, as concerned manufacturers do not apply for their approval and marketing. For such drugs Government has made